TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT 2005

Closing Session

Information/Discussion Session Reports



Session Leader: Young Ho Chang

Summary: Janyce Hedetniemi



- ☐ What are the top challenges for Transportation Planning?
- Low priority for transportation
- Models do not reflect reality
- Disconnect with Montgomery County
- Funding, Funding
- Autonomy
- Lack of trust
- Need for better public outreach and better public education on core issues
- Aggressive advocacy on the part of the public
- Political Realities
- How to balance what you take in order to give



- ☐ What are strategies or priorities to meeting those challenges?
- Increase densities at Metrostations
- Ensure initial road construction provides longevity to decrease maintenance costs
- Examine reverse commuting for impact on modeling
- Make sure that the Transportation Plan is compatible with planning at transportation entities i.e. NVTA
- LOBBY HARDER AND MORE EFFECTIVELY FOR MORE MONEY FOR TRANSPORTATION
- Use more PPTA mechanisms
- Inform and educate the general public; enlist them to effect changes in Richmond
- Issue a yearly plan update
- Involve civic and homeowner association network
- Have a united NoVA delegation



- ☐ If those priorities/strategies were implemented, what impact would they have on improving transportation in Fairfax County?
- Development of an informed and vocal public constituency
- Constitutional amendment to protect the TTF
- An energized and confident public
- Opportunity to offer more modes of transportation county-wide and more multi-modal corridors.



Session Leaders: Kathy Ichter

Dic Burke

Summary: Roger Hoskin



☐ What are the top challenges for quick fixes and spot improvements?



□What are strategies or priorities to meeting those challenges?



☐ If those priorities/strategies were implemented, what impact would they have on improving transportation in Fairfax County?



Session Leader: Bill Cutler

Summary: George Barker



- □ What are the top challenges for ongoing VDOT projects?
- Funding
- Credibility
 - Realistic estimates of cost and timing.
- Long range cost containment early land acquisition
- Adjusting for changing development
- Keeping traffic moving during construction
- Knowing obstacles
- Getting stakeholder input



- □ What are strategies or priorities to meeting those challenges?
- Being realistic, not political
- Factoring in inflation and contingencies
- Coordinating with localities and local development
- Night construction
- Getting people onto alternatives during construction
- Involve public early



- ☐ If those priorities/strategies were implemented, what impact would they have on improving transportation in Fairfax County?
- Public Credibility
- Getting traffic moving sooner
- Minimizing accidents
- Save money, use those dollars elsewhere
- Build consensus



Session Leader: Chris Wells

Fatemeh Allahdoust

Summary: Earl Flanagan



- What are the top challenges for Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities & Telework?
- Missing trails/sidewalk links
- Lack of timetable to meet needs
- Lack of public participation upon project initiation
- Lack of reasons to telework
- Lack of Metro/VODT/FCDOT coordination/standards
- Bicycle/Pedestrian conflict
- Lack of County funding decision criteria



- ☐ What are strategies or priorities to meeting those challenges?
- Use of VDOT eminent domain
- Develop 2030 pedestrian plan
- Develop State and Local PPTA policies
- Develop telework lessons learned
- TAC coordination study/colutions
- Develop separate bicycle/pedestrian rules
- Develop County funding criteria by pedestrian task force



☐ If those priorities/strategies were implemented, what impact would they have on improving transportation in Fairfax County?



Session Leader: Nicholas Ramfos

Summary: Bob Adams



- What are the top challenges for HOV and ridesharing?
- The good news is that FC has relatively good percentage
- Bad news is that availability, convenience and time issues are big problems
- More education is necessary
- Personal safety issues may be relevant re: sluglines
- Large number of HOV violators
- HOT concept



- □ What are strategies or priorities to meeting those challenges?
- Encourage part-time carpooling
- Work with employers to promote carpooling and telecommuting: also flex-time
 - Increase park-and-ride lot strategies to promote carpool formation
 - Buy land
 - Build taller parking lots
 - Rent shopping center and other losts
 - Give parking priority and spacing to carpoolers
- Add HOV reverse commuting program concept
- Increase HOV-2 to HOV-3
- Add carpool lanes in other areas to reach 60% who have no access
- Do not eliminate clean fuel exception
- Need tougher violator enforcement
- Consider HOT lanes



- ☐ If those priorities/strategies were implemented, what impact would they have on improving transportation in Fairfax County?
- Part-time carpooling = Positive
- Expand park-and-ride strategy = Positive
- Work with employers = Positive except re: flex-time
- HOV/Reverse commuting = Positive
- Increase to HOV-3 = unsure
- Add carpool lanes elsewhere = Positive
- Eliminating CF exemptions = Positive, but groups don't like this solution
- Tougher enforcement = Positive, but may not be realistic due to safety issues
- HOT lanes = Very mixed review, mainly negative



Public Transit & Rail to Dulles

Session Leader: Karen Rae

Summary: Camille Klein



Public Transit & Rail to Dulles

- □ What are the top challenges for public transit and rail to Dulles?
- Reliable funding source
 - Costs overrun on construction
 - Competition from other approved projects
 - O&M costs
- Making sure the system works
 - Pedestrian and bus access
 - Parking
 - Enough rail cars to meet demand
- Congestion during construction



Public Transit & Rail to Dulles

- ☐ What are strategies or priorities to meeting those challenges?
- Funding
 - Good management
 - Strong politcal support
 - Public education and outreach
- Making sure system works
 - Reallocation of resources
 - Plan for parking
 - Operational strategy for more trains
- Congestion during construction
 - Congestion management



Session Leader: John Milliken

Summary: Jeff Parnes



- □ What are the top challenges for public-private partnerships?
- A. From the Public's Perspective
- Local governments need to adopt clear mechanisms for solicitation and review
- Programs versus project
- PPEAs (education)
- Environment impacts
- Taxpayer benefits real and communicated
- Transparency
- Unacceptable alternatives as choices (or much better benefit)
- Was the deal agreed upon before local input?
- Converting non-tolled to toll use
- State roads considered as local use but treated as a state-wide issue
- Who decides where the roads go neighborhood and citizen concerns
- Ensure adequate oversight by the public and local government of process and proposals



- □ What are the top challenges for public-private partnerships?
- B. From the industry Perspective
- Local governments need to adopt clear mechanisms for solicitation and review
- Say no quickly
- Guaranteed revenue stream divorced from annual revenue authorizations
- Public support need to remove perceived uncertainty
- Need to know that adequate staff exists to review proposals
- Getting public to trust system
- Assurance that public agency would keep word not cave in to strong local opposition



- ☐ What are strategies or priorities to meeting those challenges?
- Public perception problem benefit to the private parties rather than public benefit
- Need to solicit what the county wants, rather than wait for unsolicited proposals
- Can we regionalize the available resources?
- Fairfax BOS explore PPTA concept by having citizen/industry/government task force review and make implementation recommendations
- Ensure proposals are already on plan or will be put on plan as first step in process



- ☐ If those priorities/strategies were implemented, what impact would they have on improving transportation in Fairfax County?
- Lower costs unexpected economic costs are the responsibility of the team
- Protection from risks
- Get projects done that might not otherwise happen



Transit Oriented Development

Session Leader: Barbara Byron

Jim Zook

Summary: Harry Zimmerman



Transit-Oriented Development- Challenges

- Planning for transit important to success
 - But then resist density expansion
- Integrate transit into community
- Balance development and infrastructure
 - Development density and transit capacity
- Integrating existing landowners
- Access and "cross access" through and across stations and rail lines
- Think PEOPLE vs Vehicles
- Public Opinion of "mass transit"
- Public support
- Synergies and mixed uses



Transit-Oriented Development – Strategies/Priorities

- Maintain County-wide perspective
- Find and articulate "what's in it for local community"
- Outreach, Education, Visuals
 - What does it mean
- Manage 'marketplace'
- Use internet ("wired communities")
- Incentives for landowners
- Air rights as opportunities over interstates



Transit-Oriented Development

- If those priorities/strategies were implemented, what impact would they have on improving transportation in Fairfax County?
 - All good things…
 - Reduce vehicle loadings
 - Attract business and residents
 - Improve Jobs/Housing balance
 - Reduce pressure on stable communities
 - Reduce sprawl



Funding

Session Leader: Bob Chase

Summary: Eric Thiel



Obstacles

- 3rd largest road network, 9th smallest funding
- Political Will
 - "No New Taxes!"
 - Lack of confidence between NOVA & Richmond (Despite actually getting transportation dollars)
- Public Perceptions
 - "All those dollars, and what do we have to show for it"
 - Problem is intractable and grossly mismanaged
 - People are angry and do not trust Richmond
- Aging population & disabilities needs public transportation



Strategies

- Solutions to "Attitudinal Inherency"
 - Note: People are angry, suggested "Admit past errors", etc.
 - Establish "Accountability"
 - Educate citizens on the problem & solutions
 - Put in context of "Time, health, environment, quality of life, etc."
 - Texas "Congestion Index", etc.
 - Public digestible version of NVTA briefing, etc.
 - Simplicity is key "No Gridlock!"
- Clear and defined plan to go with funding increases
- More bonds
- Increase gas tax
- Increase cigarette tax
- Telework & telework education



Strategies

- NOVA state delegation MUST work as a BLOC!!!
- PPT should be available in Fairfax County
- Dedicated funding of ADA support transportation via dedicated funding



Benefits

- "Stay at level F vs. total Gridlock"
- Time, AQL, health, etc.
- Less stress
- More family time
- Continued prosperity
- Support to ADA increases quality of life, reduces long term care costs, etc.



Closing Summary



Summit Replay Broadcasts

- Saturday, March 19 at 8 p.m.
- Monday, March 28 at 8 p.m.
- Monday, April 11 at 8 p.m.
- The program will also be available via Video on Demand (VOD) internet feature. This transition will be completed this week.
- VOD available at <u>www.fairfaxcounty.gov</u>, choose cable and follow the prompts.



Summit Information

 Information from today's summit will be available on the Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commission's (TAC's) webpage at:

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/tac

There will be a link the 2005 Fairfax County Transportation Summit.



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